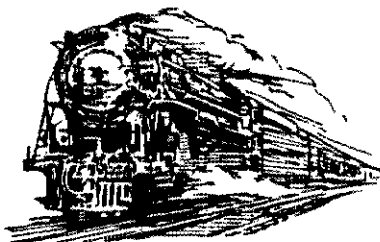


**J. M. KARAKIAN**  
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**General Committee of Adjustment**  
**Brotherhood of Locomotive Engineers & Trainmen**  
**Division of Teamsters**  
**Grand Trunk Western Railroad**

**L. L. GILBERT**  
Secretary - Treasurer



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March 27, 2007

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Honorable Vernon A. Williams  
Surface Transportation Board  
395 E Street, SW.,  
Washington, DC 20423-0001

VIA UPS OVERNIGHT / TRACKING # 1Z47X7360128025090

**RE:** This BLET General Committee's **Rebuttal** to BNSF's **"Reply To Protest"**  
In Connection With STB Finance Docket No. 34979

Dear Secretary Williams:

Please accept this **Rebuttal**, as referenced above, in regard to the BNSF's  
"Reply To Protest," dated March 23, 2007.

In the opinion of this General Committee, BNSF, in an obvious effort to defend  
their position, has taken out of context, and also, not quoted correctly, excerpts  
from the Protest filed on March 5, 2007 by this General Committee.

On page 5 of BNSF's Reply to Protest, is an excerpt from our Protest, submitted  
by this General Committee. However, in an obvious effort by BNSF to ***slant the***  
***opinion*** of the Surface Transportation Board, the last five, critical words of that  
very same paragraph have conveniently been omitted by BNSF. Those five,  
critical and omitted words are a part of the main crux and meaning of our Protest.

However, as stated, BNSF conveniently omits the last five, critical words of that  
very same paragraph.

Those five omitted words are: ***"But then again, who knows"?! Why didn't BNSF include these last five words from the very same paragraph? What are they afraid of?***

And therein lies the problem. At the time of the submitting of our Protest, this General Committee had absolutely no idea what BNSF planned to do, or did not plan to do, with the GTW Assignment #510, or any other GTW Assignment in the area defined by Finance Docket 34979. But, now we do.

This General Committee has not been bestowed with the gift of being mind readers. In connection with that, BNSF has not, not even once, had the courtesy to contact this General Committee in order to explain their plans to us, in writing, or to alleviate our fears, in writing, in regard to the GTW Assignment #510, or any other GTW Assignment in the area mentioned in Finance Docket No. 34979.

However, after receiving via fax, the "Reply" from BNSF, we now believe, via the language within their "Reply", that BNSF actually confirms our position(s) by the mere fact that BNSF ***does not deny any of the contentions as submitted in the Protest by this General Committee.***

BNSF's only defense, to the positions of Protest of BLET, is to incorrectly take, out of context and via misquote, one of our paragraphs of Protest, in order to try to use that same paragraph as their ***slanted*** supporting evidence to the Surface Transportation Board against this General Committee.

We take exception to, and are offended by, the misquote, omission, inaccuracy, taking out of context, etc., which was undertaken by BNSF in their obvious effort to conjure up ***slanted evidence*** to defend themselves from the positions taken within the Protest submitted by this General Committee.

Once again, we reiterate -- with their "Reply", BNSF ***did not*** deny, with their own language, the positions of Protest as submitted by this BLET General Committee.

Instead, BNSF has tried to evade and side-step our positions by conjuring up misquote, omission, inaccuracy, taking out of context, slanting, etc., in order to camouflage the reality that BNSF ***did not deny*** the position of Protest of this BLET/GTW General Committee of Adjustment.

Is this the best that BNSF can do when making a defense to our Protest? They have to use inaccuracy, omission, taking out of context, etc., in order to divert attention and manufacture a slanted smoke screen?

Instead of BNSF using their own language in order to mount a defense (if any), ***they decide to misquote and misuse ours!***

Through such misquote, omission, inaccuracy, taking out of context, etc., in order to create their slanted defense, - BNSF insults the Surface Transportation Board and this BLET General Committee.

In conclusion, BNSF has confirmed, to this General Committee, through their "Reply", that the above referenced Finance Docket will be used, as a disguise, to also facilitate or allow BNSF to go after (capture) the work of our GTW/Eldon Assignment #510 or any other GTW Assignment in the area mentioned in Finance Docket No. 34979. Therefore, and once again, please accept this "Rebuttal" to the "Reply" from BNSF as being a continued objection/Protest, from this General Committee, against the approval of Finance Docket No. 34979.

Sincerely,



J.M. Karakian  
General Chairman, BLET/GTW

Cc: Sidney L. Strickland, Jr./Strickland and Associates, PLLC  
D. Hahs, NP/BLET  
P. Sorrow, NVP/BLET  
T. Pontolillo, Dir. Of Regulatory Affairs/BLET  
All BLET/GTW Local Chairmen  
R. McDougall, Senior Director/LR-CN-GTW  
E. St. Amant, Manager/LR-CN-GTW